

Application Number: 10/562,090

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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (cancelled)
2. (currently amended) A method for synthesizing methyl 2,4,9-trithiaadamantane-7-carboxylate comprising [[of]] the step of:
reacting oxidized methyl triallyl acetate with a sulphuring agent and a Lewis acid to produce methyl 2,4,9-trithiaadamantane-7-carboxylate.
3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the sulphuring agent is 2,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3,2,4-dithiadiphosphetane 2,4-disulfide; phosphorus pentasulfide hexamethyl-disiloxane; or a combination thereof.
4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the sulphuring agent is reacted with oxidized methyl triallyl acetate in a relative mole ratio ranging from about 6:1 to about 1:1.
5. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the sulphuring agent is reacted with oxidized methyl triallyl acetate in a relative mole ratio ranging from about 3:1 to about 2:1
6. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the Lewis acid is BF₃•Et₂O, BCl₃•Et₂O, or a combination thereof.
7. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the Lewis acid is reacted with the oxidized methyl triallyl acetate in a relative mole ratio ranging from about 4:1 to about 1:1.

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8. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the Lewis acid is reacted with the oxidized methyl triallyl acetate in a relative mole ratio ranging from about 3:1 to about 2:1.

9. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of reacting oxidized methyl triallyl acetate with a sulphuring agent and a Lewis acid to produce methyl 2,4,9-trithiaadamantane-7-carboxylate occurs in a noncoordinated or weakly coordinated solvent.

10. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the noncoordinated or weakly coordinated solvent is methylene chloride, carbon tetrachloride, benzene, or any combination thereof.

11. (original) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of using a metallic powder to purify a methyl 2,4,9-trithiaadamantane-7-carboxylate reaction product.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the metallic powder is a copper powder.

13. (cancelled)